

**REMARKS****I. Status of the Claims:**

Claims 1-4, 7, 9, 12, 14-15, 21, 22, 25-28 and 30 are pending in this application.

By this Amendment, claims 1, 9, 12, 14, 15, 22, 15 and 26 have been amended, and new claim 31 has been added. No new matter is believed to have been added by the Amendment. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-4, 7, 9, 12, 14-15, 21, 22, 25-28, 30 and 31 would still be pending.

The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the interview of September 27, 2007, and for his suggestions with respect to the cited art in the 103 rejection.

**II. Claim Objections:**

The Examiner has objected to claims 1, 9, 14, 15, 22 and 25 as containing informalities. In accordance with the Examiner suggestions, these claims have been amended to address the Examiner's concerns. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections are respectfully requested.

**III. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103:**

Claims 1-4, 7, 9, 12, 14, 15, 21-22, 25-28 and 30 are newly rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dochterman (US 2,722,618) in view of Rapata (US 3,110,338).

Claim 1, as amended, is directed to an apparatus including a motor assembly having a fastening aperture, and a Z-shaped fastener for fastening at least two parts of the motor assembly. The fastener comprises a base extension tab extending in a lateral direction across its entire width, an extension block that extends in a lateral direction opposite that of the base

extension tab, and a fastening aperture engaging portion facing in the direction in which the extension block extends. The extension block includes a bore with internal threads, that extends through the block in the lateral direction and configured to accept an elongated part of a securing bolt, and the extension block is longer than the base extension tab along the lateral direction. When said Z-shaped fastener is engaged with a motor assembly by inserting said Z-shaped fastener into and through a fastening aperture of the motor assembly, the base extension tab is configured to contact an interior wall of the motor assembly, whereas the extension block is configured to contact an exterior wall of the motor assembly and to terminate at or before an end of the exterior wall of motor assembly, and the fastening aperture engaging portion is configured to contact the motor assembly in the side plane of a fastening aperture.

Claim 1 has been amended to further reflect that (1) the base extension tab extends in a lateral direction across its entire width, (2) the extension block is longer than the base extension tab along the lateral direction, and (3) when the fastener is engaged to the motor assembly, the extension block is configured to terminate at or before an end of the exterior wall of motor assembly. These changes to the claims are added in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions during the interview.

It is respectfully submitted that the cited references, individually or in combination, do not disclose or suggest at least these newly amended claimed aspects (e.g., (1) to (3)) particularly in the context of the claims as a whole.

Furthermore, it is also respectfully submitted that the plastic device of Rapata does not appear to be suitable for use with the type of dynamoelectric machine described in Dochterman. Thus, one of ordinary skill in the art would not combine the references in the manner suggested in the Office Action.

In view of the foregoing, claim 1 and its dependent claims are believed to be distinguishable over the cited references. For similar reasons, claims 12 and 26 (also amended) and their dependent claims are also believed to be distinguishable over the cited references. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of these claims are respectfully requested.

**CONCLUSION**

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application.

**AUTHORIZATION**

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 0403-4107US1.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 0403-4107US1.

Respectfully submitted,  
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